

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

**[0090]** A gel relaxer device is provided for relieving stress in an electrophoresis gel between clamping surfaces of a gel clamp. The device includes a pair of operating arms having a gel gripping surface and a clamping actuating surface. The operating arms move toward each other to enable the gripping surfaces to grip and support an electrophoresis gel suspended by a gel clamp. The actuating surfaces of the arms engage the clamping jaws of the gel clamp to open the jaws to allow the gel to relax and assume its normal position and orientation. The operating arms are then separated to allow the gel clamp to again close and clamp the gel. The gel and gel clamp can then be transported to a selected processing stage.